



Green light for wheelie bin rollout

Wheelie bins will soon become the chosen method for kerbside recycling and rubbish collection after Council's Assets and Services Committee gave the new proposal the go ahead. Assets and Services Committee chair David Croad said consultation at the end of last year found that 76 per cent of those who made a submission supported the move to wheelie bins and expanding the kerbside collection area. "This gave Council a clear signal that the community is ready to utilise this new and improved service," he said. Councillor Croad said a few changes have been made to the original proposal taking on board feedback from the community. "The panel received 459 submissions and suggestions received have been worked into the final recommendation that was approved by the committee," he said. These include offering different size wheelie bins. Initially households were to be given two 140-litre bins, one for rubbish and one for recycling, to be collected on alternate weeks. Households would also get a separate 55-litre crate for glass which would be emptied fortnightly. However, following feedback, Council will offer residents a low (80-litre), standard (140-litre) or high (240-litre) volume wheelie bin option, each at a different cost.

Councillor Croad said it is important to recognise that people have different circumstances. "A large family might require a 240-litre bin where as an elderly person might only need a smaller 80-litre bin which would be easier for them to take out to the kerbside for collection," he said. The Wairau Valley and Ward communities signalled they would prefer to continue to use their local transfer stations instead of being part of the proposed kerbside collection. "Feedback from Ward and Wairau Valley advised the panel that the logistics of getting a wheelie bin to the gate of a rural property would be impractical," Clr Croad said. "The change to recycling and rubbish collection is a big decision for our region with the contract worth about \$30 million. It's one of our biggest contracts and is important to ensure the right service is provided. I'm pleased we have made these changes to the original proposal that will benefit the users of the new service," Clr Croad said. If ratified by full Council on 2 March, the new wheelie bin contract is expected to begin on 1 July 2024. For more information on the wheelie bin roll out and establishment of remote transfer stations visit: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/refuse/community-consultation-waste-services



We love it here campaign launches

Council has joined forces with other agencies to help spread the word and help our amazing local business community fill their talent gaps. As part of the Innovate Marlborough activation plan, Council's Economic Development team, along with the Marlborough Chamber of Commerce and the Ministry of Social Development, are leading this skills attraction campaign to support Marlborough business fulfil current \$70,000-plus job vacancies and bring new talent to our region. Be sure to keep an eye out at the

airport, ferry terminals, cafes, shops etc for the 'we love it here' brochure over the next few weeks, leading up to the Wine and Food Festival. Current vacancies and information on the campaign can be found on the 'we love it here' website: www.weloveithere.nz/ Get involved by following the @weloveithere Instagram account and enter the social media competition by sharing why you love it in Marlborough. Don't forget to share with your friends or family who might be considering a move to Marlborough.



Upcoming meetings: the future of Marlborough's freshwater

Council wants to hear from communities, businesses and iwi about their vision for the future of Marlborough's freshwater. This is the first of three consultation periods over the next two years, as part of the Government's Essential Freshwater package and in particular the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. Marlborough is a large district with various needs for freshwater, so this first round of submissions is also

asking for feedback on freshwater management units (FMUs), which are six areas grouped because they are a single catchment or group of catchments with similar characteristics. Council encourages the public to attend a public meeting, as well as make a submission. Visit www.marlborough.govt.nz to make a submission, or pick up a hard copy at Council offices, and submit by Tuesday 28 February 2023.

Date	Location	Freshwater Management Unit
Thurs, 9 Feb 7.00 - 9.00 pm	Wairau Valley Hall 17 Morse Street, Wairau Valley	Wairau
Thurs, 16 Feb 7.00 - 9.00 pm	Yealands Awatere Memorial Hall Foster Street, Seddon	Awatere
Fri, 17 Feb 10.00 - 11.00 am	Online via Zoom*	All
Mon, 20 Feb 12.00 pm - 1.00 pm	Online via Zoom*	All
Mon, 20 Feb 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	Ward Community Hall 61 Ward Street, Ward	East Coast Complex
Tues, 21 Feb 8.00 pm - 9.00 pm	Online via Zoom*	All
Thurs, 23 Feb 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm	Scenic Hotel (Marlborough Room) 65 Alfred Street, Blenheim Central	Wairau

*Zoom links to online meetings are available at www.marlborough.govt.nz

New freedom camping bylaw set for May

Council's freedom camping bylaw, which allows for freedom camping at 11 sites across the district, up from just five originally proposed, is set to come into effect this May. The sites in which freedom camping will be provided for under the Responsible Camping Control Bylaw 2022 are the Wairau Diversion, Taylor Dam, Renwick Dog Park, Renwick Domain car park, Wynen Street car park, Lansdowne Park car park, Lake Elterwater road reserve (Ward), Blairich Reserve (Awatere Valley), Opouri Road (Carluke Domain), Alfred Stream (Rai Valley) and Wash Bridge recreation reserve on SH63. Many of these locations will limit the number of nights freedom campers can stay, and the number of vehicles permitted at each of the sites, for example, camping at Lansdowne Park will be limited to four vehicles and a one-night stay Monday to Thursday. Speaking at the Assets and Services Committee meeting, Mayor Nadine Taylor, who also sat on the hearings panel, noted that the bylaw has been years in the making and has been through three rounds of public consultation. "Following a claim for judicial review by the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association in May 2021 over the limitations of the 2020 Bylaw, Council has been through two additional consultations and followed a very



robust process," Mayor Taylor said. "The Hearings Panel conducted a thorough assessment of the sites as part of their decision-making," she said. The panel considering the bylaw was made up of independent commissioner Martin Williams, former Mayor John Leggett and current Mayor Nadine Taylor. The implementation of the bylaw is subject to full Council ratification on 2 March.

